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Peacebuilding Commission
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Conclusions and recommendations of the Peacebuilding Commission on the annual review of its engagement with Burundi

1. On 21 April 2011, the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission adopted the outcome of the fifth review of the implementation of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi (PBC/5/BDI/2 of 26 April 2011). Following the review, the Government of Burundi, in consultation with its partners, integrated the remaining peacebuilding issues into the second-generation poverty reduction strategy paper. It was agreed that subsequent review of progress in peacebuilding would be undertaken under the monitoring and evaluation framework of the poverty reduction strategy.

2. Since 2012 is the planning year of the second-generation poverty reduction strategy paper, the Government of Burundi and the Peacebuilding Commission have undertaken a pragmatic review of the outcome document of 26 April 2011 focusing on the main achievements and remaining challenges in the field of peace consolidation. The Commission takes note of the document, dated 8 June 2012, on the review of the 2011 outcome transmitted to the Commission by the Government of Burundi. The review was carried out by the sectoral groups composed of Government and international partners, with the participation of civil society, and endorsed in a political forum chaired by the First Vice-President of Burundi on 8 June 2012. In adopting the recommendations emanating from this review, the Commission reaffirms the two-track approach to its engagement with Burundi and the priorities set out in the outcome document of 26 April 2011.

3. In doing so, the Peacebuilding Commission takes note of the progress achieved in Burundi and as such:

(a) Welcomes the progress made since the adoption of the outcome document in April 2011, as reflected in the annual review conducted in Bujumbura, in particular:

(i) The renewal of the term of the National Independent Electoral Commission, to enable it to continue the preparation of the next electoral

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cycle, as well as the process of preparing the electoral code for the elections of 2015;

(ii) The initiation of an inclusive process of preparing a law on the opposition parties;

(iii) The adoption of the national strategy for good governance and fighting against corruption, as well as the ongoing work of anti-corruption bodies;

(iv) The creation and operationalization of the Independent National Human Rights Commission and the adoption of a sectoral strategy by the Ministry of Justice;

(v) The reform of the Burundi Revenue Authority, allowing an important increase in revenue collection;

(vi) The drafting of a report and draft text for a law setting up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission;

(vii) The adoption of a new law on land rights ("*code foncier*");

(viii) The reform of public administration and other measures taken in the context of integration into the East African Community;

(ix) The continuation of the socioeconomic reintegration of war-affected populations;

(b) Welcomes the completion of the second poverty reduction strategy paper, the integration of peacebuilding issues in the paper, the plan of the Government of Burundi to mobilize resources, the meeting of the Second Vice-President with the Peacebuilding Commission in April 2012 to explain the content and funding requirements for the second poverty reduction strategy paper and the upcoming partners' conference scheduled for October 2012;

(c) Welcomes the financial and political support provided by the multilateral and bilateral partners of Burundi, including the new allocation provided by the Peacebuilding Fund to sustain the socioeconomic reintegration of war-affected populations;

(d) Recognizes that challenges in building peace in Burundi remain. These challenges are identified in the report of the Chair of the Burundi configuration on his visit in April 2012, as well as in the report of Burundi on the review of the 2011 outcome document. The Peacebuilding Commission welcomes the political forum of the Partners Coordination Group and the forthcoming partners' conference in Geneva as important platforms for dialogue among the Government, the international community and national stakeholders on the implementation of measures to address those remaining challenges. The Commission stresses the need for continued active engagement by all actors in support of the national efforts of Burundi in addressing those challenges.

4. The Government of Burundi and the Peacebuilding Commission undertake to continue their cooperation in pursuit of peacebuilding objectives over the next 12 months, with a particular focus on the issues outlined below, which supplement the outcome document adopted on 21 April 2011.

5. The Government of Burundi commits to undertake the following:

(a) Pursue all efforts aimed at sustaining and enhancing progress for sustainable development and peace consolidation in the political and institutional fields achieved in 2011-2012. In this regard, continue to engage in a forward-looking dialogue with all relevant political actors, including those not represented in the institutions, to foster a political culture based on inclusiveness and participation in view of future electoral processes;

(b) Pursue and increase preventive and corrective measures against human rights violations, politically motivated violence and impunity; continue to reinforce the work of the National Independent Human Rights Commission; and set up mechanisms of transitional justice;

(c) Take further action and keep its commitment to speed up and deepen efforts to combat corruption by expediting the settlement of cases currently before the courts, including the conclusion of pending cases referred to in previous progress reports, by conducting transparent investigations of open cases and by supporting and strengthening governmental and non-governmental organizations in the fight against corruption;

(d) Take further steps to ensure that the new law on land rights ("*code foncier*") is translated into tangible actions;

(e) Prepare and implement a communication strategy in order to give visibility to the progress achieved.

6. The Peacebuilding Commission commits to undertake the following:

(a) Continue to provide advice and generate support for the implementation of the commitments of Burundi in regard to promoting a culture of democracy, dialogue, good governance, human rights and the rule of law;

(b) Concentrate on mobilizing resources in support of peacebuilding areas as reflected in the first pillar of the poverty reduction strategy paper, in particular the dialogue process, the work of the National Independent Human Rights Commission, the implementation of the transitional justice process and the socioeconomic reintegration programme;

(c) Politically support and promote the partners' conference to be convened by the Government of Burundi on 29 and 30 October in Geneva, and make a particular effort to mobilize new and non-State donors to participate in the event;

(d) Continue in its assistance regarding fostering closer peacebuilding partnerships with all relevant actors, such as the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the African Development Bank, as well as with the institutions of regional integration, particularly in view of the forthcoming partners' conference;

(e) Help to support the efforts of the Government to create an environment conducive to attracting national and foreign investment, including the promotion of South-South partnerships, in implementing the second poverty reduction strategy paper.